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FROM: Guatemala City

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 119, July 26, noon.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Tel. Director & El Salvador. File Copy

While accompanying Ambassador Willauer on courtesy visit to Castillo Armas July 24 I took occasion to inform Castillo of pro-Arbenz attitude of Major Salomon Pinto, Guatemalan Minister in Bern (DEPTEL 89, July 22). Colonel Castillo said had to be treated with some consideration because he was Army officer and that he had also been schoolmate of Castillo's. Nevertheless Castillo summoned Foreign Minister Salazar and in my presence instructed him send telegram relieving Pinto of duties. Salazar said he thought that had already been done but if not would do so at once.

I did not take up case of Ambassador Garcia Montenegro as he has two brothers who have been with Castillo Armas for two years and who are now acting as his personal aides. As Ambassador Garcia Montenegro is known to have left Habana for San Salvador on July 2, it would be appreciated if Department would verify whether he is still in Habana and if so whether he has engaged in undesirable activities since change of government.

Cases of Mendez Zabadua and Humberto Palomo (DEPTEL 94) will be taken up with Foreign Office at early opportunity.

RUBIFOY

BJC

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